

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/734,943

Examiner

John B Nguyen

Applicant(s)

BLAUM ET AL.

Art Unit

2819

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to \_\_\_\_.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-18.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 12 December 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 11/20/2004.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

### *EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT*

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with **Terrance Meador** on **November 18, 2004**.

The application has been amended as follows:

### *IN THE CLAIM*

A. **Claims 19-21 cancelled.**

### *Allowable Subject Matter*

2. Claims 1-18 are allowed.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art fails to show a method executable by a programmed processor for generating a binary Gray code, comprising: finding the largest value  $M$  such that the rightmost bit changes between code word  $c_{M-2}^n$  and  $c_{M-1}^n$ ; and forming  $4M$  code words of  $C^{n+2}$  by extending the first  $M$  code words of  $C^n$  by a single bit at each end, with reversals in the order of the code words of  $C^n$  as required to yield an extended code  $X$  as called in claims 1 and 10; if  $n$  is equal to or less than 3, selecting a predetermined code table containing 2, 4, or 8 code words, in which the predetermined tables having 4 or eight code words are characterized by at least a second property that, in each consecutive group of three consecutive code words, the first and third code words differ in only two adjacent coordinate positions; and if  $n$  is even, selecting the predetermined code table containing 4 code words as a first code table, or if  $n$  is odd, selecting the predetermined code table with 8 code words as the first code table; and then forming a second code

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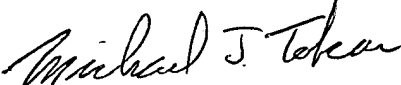
table from the first (3L/4+2) code words in the first code table; and forming a fifth code table by reversing the order of code words in the second code table as called for in claims 7 and 16. Therefore, claims 1-18 are presently allowed.

### **Conclusion**

4. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John B. Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 271-1808. The examiner can normally be reached on 8AM-4:30 PM M-F.

John B. Nguyen  
November 21, 2004

  
Michael Tokar  
Supervisory Patent Examiner  
Technology Center 2800